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No.: EV 075 593 395 US**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Applicant(s): J. OZAWA et al

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Serial No. : Based on  
PCT/JP01/06421

Filed : Herewith

*Barbara Villani*  
Barbara Villani

For : FASTENER

Art Unit :  
Examiner :

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**Asst. Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:****Page 1:** Please insert the following as the first sentence:

--This application is a U.S. National Phase Application under 35 USC 371 of International Application PCT/JP01/06421 (not published in English) filed July 26, 2001.--

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please substitute amended claims 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22 and 23, and add new claims 25-36 as follows:

4. (amended) The fastener according to claim 2, wherein the special thread ridges (422) comprise thread ridges obtained by subjecting common thread ridges to compressive deformation in a diametrical direction.

6. (amended) The fastener according to claim 2, wherein the special thread ridges (422) have a greater pitch (P2) than a pitch (P1) of a common thread ridge or a less pitch (P3) than the pitch (P1) of the common thread ridge.

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